

# Reuse • Recycle • Conserve

City of Kirkland Public Works Department



## WATCH FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

Special Collection Event  
(October 11)

## INSIDE

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Visit us at [www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/recycle](http://www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/recycle)

## Residential Recycling Collection Event

**PRESENTED BY:** City of Kirkland & King County  
**WHAT:** Residential Collection Event  
**WHERE:** Houghton Park & Ride (NE 70th St. & 116th Ave. NE)  
**WHEN:** Saturday, October 11, 9 AM to 3 PM

This is a great opportunity to clean out your garage and safely recycle items that normally cannot be left at the curb with your regular Waste Management pick-up service. Examples of items that you can bring are: tires, motor oil, batteries, clothing, porcelain toilets and sinks, electronic equipment and televisions.\*

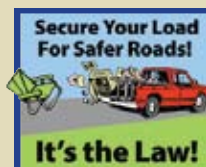
Not sure what to do with those hard to recycle items? Visit King County's "What Do I Do With..." page from [www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/recycle](http://www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/recycle).

**Fluorescent tubes and bulbs can be recycled at this event!**  
(limit 10 tubes/bulbs per person)

### User Fee Items (cash only):

Porcelain toilets/sinks-\$5  
Propane tanks (empty, residential only)-\$5  
Small camping propane tanks (empty)-\$1  
TV sets (36" or smaller)-\$20  
TV sets (37" or larger, console/big screen)-\$25  
TV sets (projection)-\$30  
Computer monitors-\$10

Please see [www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd/facilities](http://www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd/facilities)  
or call (206) 296-4466 for  
tips on securing your load.



\*Restrictions apply and some items are not collected. User fees cover the cost of proper processing and recycling. All items collected will be recycled. View the flyer at [www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/recycle](http://www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/recycle) or call the Recycling Hotline at (425) 587-3812 for more information.

Funding provided by the King County Solid Waste Division, King County Local Hazardous Waste Management Program, and the Washington State Department of Ecology.

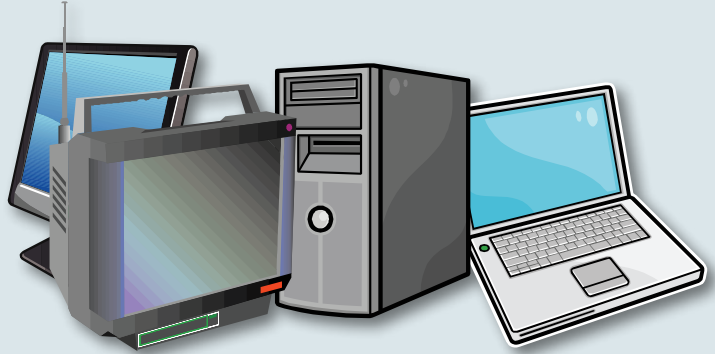
# The In's and Out's of the New Electronics Recycling Law

Effective January 1, 2009, a new product stewardship law in Washington will require manufacturers to provide electronics recycling services at no cost to households, small businesses, charities, school districts, and small governments.

At least one collection site will be established in Kirkland (yet to be determined) and at least one site will be available in each county.

- Items accepted - televisions, desktop and laptop computers, and monitors
- Items not accepted - cell phones, printers, scanners, fax machines, or other electronic devices.

For more information on the new law, please read the Washington State Department of Ecology's Focus Sheet at [www.ecy.wa.gov](http://www.ecy.wa.gov) and search for "electronics recycling" or call the City of Kirkland Recycling Hotline at (425) 587-3812.



## Take the Plunge, Make a Pledge



**T**ake the plunge! Pledge to make a few small changes in your daily life that will help improve water quality in our local waterways.

- Wash your vehicle at a commercial car wash or on your lawn.
- Never discard trash or yard waste down storm drains or in the street.
- Pick up your pet's waste, even in the yard (it's raw sewage!).
- Use lawn chemicals sparingly – or not at all.
- Reduce car trips. Combine errands, carpool, bus, bike or walk.

Pledge today and receive a shopping bag as a recognition gift. Go to [www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/pledge](http://www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/pledge) to take the pledge.

## Be an Earth Saver! Volunteer Soon!

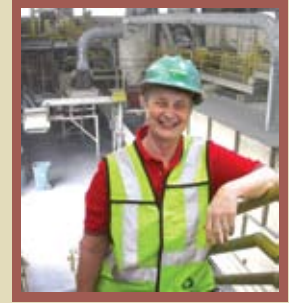
**M**any environmental stewardship opportunities are available with the City of Kirkland. Go to [www.ci.kirkland.wa.us](http://www.ci.kirkland.wa.us) and enter "Kirkland Volunteer Opportunities" in the search box to find a complete listing of opportunities.

# Ask Rita: Perplexed About Plastic

Dear Rita,

I don't like to put things in the garbage if they can be recycled, but plastics confuse me! I know I can recycle plastic bottles, but what about my plastic berry containers and iced coffee cups? They have recycling symbols on them, but someone told me they aren't accepted? Why not?

Perplexed about Plastic



Rita Smith

**Dear Perplexed:**

Plastic recycling certainly can be confusing. I encourage you to **ignore the recycling symbols** on the plastic containers! Not all plastic items with recycling symbols on them can currently be recycled. Some are not valuable enough to warrant the cost of collection, sorting, shipping, processing and manufacturing.

In addition, the number inside the recycling arrows is not a reliable identifier of whether or not an item is accepted. Although the number identifies the type of resin used in making the product, some items with the same number inside the arrows cannot be recycled together because they have been manufactured using different heating and molding processes. (For example, markets that accept #1 plastic bottles usually don't want #1 plastic cups.)

## Plastic Bottles, Jugs and Dairy Tubs

To avoid confusion and contamination, **ignore the recycling symbols on plastic** containers and packaging. At this time, please put only plastic bottles, jugs and dairy tubs that have not contained toxic products in your recycling container.

## Reduce Your Use of Plastic

It is even better than recycling to reduce the number of unnecessary "disposable" containers you use. (Collecting, sorting, shipping and manufacturing recycled materials into new products require a good deal of energy and generate greenhouse gases!) Take your own durable bag when you shop, and encourage your family to drink free, high quality "Northwest water" right from your faucet. Bottled water requires vital resources for bottle manufacturing, filling, transporting and storage. If you don't like the taste of water from your faucet, you can install an under sink water filter or use a portable water filter.

Plastic is a wonderful material for many purposes, but we need to use it wisely.

**More information on Reducing, Reusing and Recycling:**

[www.wmnorthwest.com/kirkland](http://www.wmnorthwest.com/kirkland)

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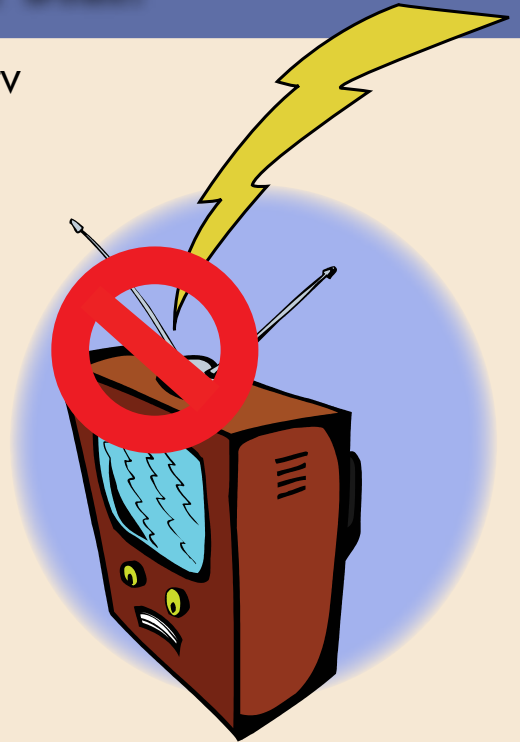
*As Waste Management's Community Education Director, Rita Smith promotes recycling and waste prevention for many Pacific Northwest cities, counties, residents and businesses. She manages Waste Management's community website, [www.wmnorthwest.com/Kirkland](http://www.wmnorthwest.com/Kirkland) and speaks at many community events. A sustainability activist for over 20 years, Rita is on the Washington State Recycling Association (WSRA) Board of Directors and has been inducted into the WSRA Hall of Fame.*

## Digital TV Transition: Think Again Before Touching that Dial!

You're probably already dialed in to the digital TV transition that takes effect on February 17, 2009 when full-power television stations nationwide must switch from the analog method of transmitting TV signals to only broadcasting a digital signal. If you're thinking you need to recycle your TV, think again! There's no need to recycle your TV just because it uses "rabbit ears" or a rooftop antenna.

The U.S. Department of Commerce advises that if all of your TV sets are connected to cable, satellite or other pay service, check with your provider to see how they will support your analog set after February 17, 2009. If at least one TV set is not hooked up to cable, satellite or other pay service, then you must either buy a converter box, buy a TV with a digital tuner or connect your analog TV to cable, satellite, or other pay service.

If you are not sure what type of TV you have, go to [www.dtvtransition.org](http://www.dtvtransition.org). To apply for a coupon to help pay for a converter box, go to [www.DTV2009.org](http://www.DTV2009.org), apply by mail at PO Box 2000, Portland, OR, 97208, call 1(888) DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009) or fax 1(877)-DTV-4ME2 (1-877-388-4632).



## Correction About Returning Unwanted Sharps



In our spring issue we reported that many local pharmacies have free drop-off collection programs for medical sharps. We would like to clarify that the programs are not free of charge and recommend you check with the individual pharmacies to determine their rules.

Fee-for-service mail back programs are offered through Waste Management [www.wastemd.com](http://www.wastemd.com) and GRP & Associates [www.sharpsdisposal.com](http://www.sharpsdisposal.com).

## Comments

The City of Kirkland would like to hear your comments about this newsletter or your suggestions for future issues. Please call **(425) 587-3907** or email [vlock@ci.kirkland.wa.us](mailto:vlock@ci.kirkland.wa.us).

# Welcome to the Neighborhood!

## Get Your Free Move-in Kits.

The City of Kirkland is offering FREE recycling containers to Kirkland multi-family property managers and condominium associations for distribution to their residents (while supplies last).

There are two different container styles and each comes filled with great recycling information including a guideline sticker, a refrigerator magnet, and a recycling resource list. The City also offers recycling presentations to tenant and owner groups and free assistance in establishing new recycling programs.

Please ask your building owner, property manager, or condo association to contact the City of Kirkland at (425) 587-3812 or at [recycle@ci.kirkland.wa.us](mailto:recycle@ci.kirkland.wa.us).

## Recycling Yes List

### Put In Your All-In-One Recycling Container:

#### Paper

- Clean paper and mail • Cardboard
- Magazines, catalogs, paperback books and telephone books
- Paper boxes (cereal, frozen food etc.)
- Newspapers and advertising supplements
- Milk cartons and juice boxes
- Gift Wrap • Paper egg cartons

#### Plastic

- Bottles, jugs and dairy tubs (no lids)

#### Glass

- Bottles and jars (no lids)

#### Metal

- Aluminum and tin cans
- Scrap metal (limit 2' x 2' x 2', 35 pounds)



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*Interested in participating in a food scrap collection program at your apartment or condominium complex? Contact (425) 587-3812 for details.*

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## Kirkland Green E-Updates

**G**ot email? Get great information on everything "green" by subscribing to Kirkland Green E-Updates! Visit [www.ci.kirkland.wa.us](http://www.ci.kirkland.wa.us) and click on the Kirkland Email Alerts icon.

Kirkland E-Mail Alerts





# Get Ready for Old Man Winter

## Prepare Your Family for Winter Storms

- Organize an evacuation plan for your family.
- Know where utility shut-offs are located and how to use them. Visit [www.ci.kirkland.wa.us](http://www.ci.kirkland.wa.us) and enter helpful hints in the search box for information regarding your water meter.
- Stock at least several days of emergency supplies at home, at work, and in your vehicles. For information on emergency preparedness, go to [www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/prepare](http://www.ci.kirkland.wa.us/prepare).



## Snow/Ice Trash Collection

If garbage service is cancelled due to a snow/ice or other weather event, your garbage and recycling will be picked up on your next regular service day. You can place a double load at your regular collection point. If you have carts, please remove them from the curb and right-of-way by the end of the day in consideration of your neighbors, vehicles, and pedestrians. For more information, visit [www.wmnorthwest.com/kirkland](http://www.wmnorthwest.com/kirkland) or call (800) 592-9995.

## Flooding Prevention

- Remove leaves and debris from the storm drain and gutter and place the material in a yard waste container.
- Do not blow or rake leaves into the street.
- Before and during a storm, check storm drain grates and the surrounding area frequently to make sure they are free of leaves and debris.
- Do not remove the grate from the storm drain opening - this does NOT unclog the system and creates a hazard for everyone.

To Adopt a drain in your neighborhood or for more information, visit [www.ci.kirkland.wa.us](http://www.ci.kirkland.wa.us) and type "keep it clear" in the search box or call Public Works at (425) 587-3800.



Reuse • Recycle • Conserve



City of Kirkland  
Department of Public Works  
123 5th Avenue  
Kirkland, Washington 98033

PRESORTED STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
KIRKLAND, WA  
PERMIT NO. 268

## Kirkland Residents: Did You Know?



500 billion to 1 trillion plastic bags are consumed and discarded annually worldwide - more than a million a minute!

Consider using reusable shopping bags made of eco-friendly material. They continue to be the option with the least environmental impact. Contact the Recycling Hotline at [recycle@ci.kirkland.wa.us](mailto:recycle@ci.kirkland.wa.us) or (425) 587-3812 free a free reusable shopping bag.

